



Riverways Record

Park Internal Review of Draft General Management Plan Completed

Ozark National Scenic Riverways has completed the internal review of the park's General Management Plan.

"The park staff have completed their review of the 318 page document and have provided comments. These remarks have been compiled and submitted to the Denver Service Center planning team," says Acting Superintendent Black.

Besides the park staff reviewing the draft, the National Park Service's Denver Service Center and the Midwest Regional Office in Omaha, Nebraska have also reviewed the draft document and provided their input.

Comments from all entities will be incorporated into the draft which will be sent to the National Park Service leadership in Washington D. C. for their review. Once this review is completed, the draft General Management Plan will be released for public review and comment. Ozark National Scenic Riverways and the planning team anticipate the public release for review and comment to occur Spring 2012.

The park will inform the public when the review and comment period will occur. We encourage and welcome your input on the draft General Management Plan.

Did You Know?

The park had 1.3 million visitors in 2011 compared to 1.4 million in 2010.

Bill Black Serves as Interim Superintendent

Bill Black, Superintendent at Fort Smith National Historic Site in Fort Smith, Arkansas, has been selected as the interim superintendent of Ozark National Scenic Riverways for 120 days that began January 17th. "I'm eager to experience Ozark National Scenic Riverways and meet the park staff and partners who have a love and passion for its special resources. Listening to suggestions and concerns and conveying them to upper National Park Service management will be paramount during my tenure", states Black.

Black began his National Park Service career as a seasonal Park Technician at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park in Kentucky followed by a season at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument in St. Augustine, Florida. His first permanent position was as a Park Ranger in law enforcement at Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee. He then went on to become the Administrative Officer at Chickasaw National Recreation Area in Oklahoma and a few years later was promoted into the Administrative Officer and Assistant Superintendent role at Isle Royale National Park in Michigan. Black's career also included working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Florida and Alabama as an Assistant Wildlife Refuge Manager. He has been Fort Smith's superintendent since January



Acting Superintendent Bill Black

1992 where he led the park through major rehabilitation including the planning and development of its visitor center and exhibits.

Black has been successful in developing, improving, and maintaining positive cooperative relationships with local, state and other federal agencies, Native American tribal governments, land owners and interest groups. His last acting assignment was in Las Vegas as the director of one of the largest multi-agency partnerships in the country dealing with both federal and numerous interest and support groups in southern Nevada.

An Indiana native, Black graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Wildlife Management. Black is married to Judi, a first grad teacher with the Fort Smith public schools. They have a grown son and daughter.

Ozark Hellbender Listed on Federal Endangered Species List

The Ozark Hellbender salamanders are a rare subspecies found only in Southern Missouri and Arkansas. They are permanently aquatic and restricted to the Ozark Plateau in rivers that drain into the Missouri-Mississippi river systems. Their well-being is dependent on high-quality water systems with constant levels of dissolved oxygen, temperature and flow.

These salamanders, solitary in nature, make their homes under flat rocks in large, permanent streams and rivers. They have a broad, flat head with very small, lidless eyes. They range in color from reddish-brown to dull gray-brown. Hellbenders breed from late September to November, and their 200-700 eggs are fertilized externally and laid in



Ozark Hellbender

depressions under flat rocks in rivers. Larvae hatch 4 to 6 weeks later. Hellbenders feed mainly on crayfish and other aquatic animals.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways will

work with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and state agencies to preserve water quality, habitat, and increase populations. The federal listing of the Hellbender on the endangered species list will be addressed in the park's draft GMP.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/ozar or Facebook.

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Upcoming Calendar

Date

Description

Thursday, January 26th

Temporary Maintenance Worker positions advertized on www.usajobs.gov

Tuesday, January 31st

Application process for summer Biological Technician positions ends at 11:59 pm through www.usajobs.gov

Wednesday, February 1st

Application process for student summer positions ends at close of business. Information available at park's website (www.nps.gov) under park management and click on "Jobs".

Wednesday, February 1st

Application process for temporary Maintenance Mechanic Leader ends at 11:59 pm through www.usajobs.gov

Thursday, February 2nd

Application process for permanent Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator ends at 11:59 pm through www.usajobs.gov

Saturday, February 4th

Owl Prowl program at Alley Spring. Meet at Alley General Store at 5:30 pm

Tuesday, February 7th

Application process for temporary Maintenance Worker (Trails) ends at 11:59 pm through www.usajobs.gov

Wednesday, February 8th

Application process for temporary Administrative Support Clerk and Maintenance Worker ends at 11:59 pm through www.usajobs.gov

Friday, February 10th

Application process for temporary Motor Vehicle Operator ends at 11:59 pm through www.usajobs.gov

Monday, February 20th

Presidents Day – Federal Holiday. Visitor Contact Station in Van Buren closed.